

WHAT IS CLAIMED AS NEW AND DESIRED TO BE SECURED BY LETTERS PATENT
OF THE UNITED STATES IS:

1. A toner comprising:
toner particles comprising:

5 a binder resin; and
 a colorant; and

an inorganic particulate material disposed on a surface
of the toner particles,

 wherein the toner particles have a surface roughness of
10 between 1 and 30 nm, a standard deviation of the surface roughness
of between 10 and 90 nm and include 1 to 20 convexities per 1
 μm having a height not less than 10 nm, and include a convexity
having a vertical interval not less than 10 nm between a bottom
of a concavity and a top of the convexity between 1 and 20 pieces/ μm
15 in number.

2. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner has
an average circularity of between 0.93 and 1.00.

3. The toner according to claim 2, wherein an amount not
greater than 30% of the toner particles have a circularity less
20 than 0.93.

4. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner has
a volume-average particle diameter of between 2.0 and 6.0 μm
and a ratio of the volume-average particle diameter to a
number-average particle diameter of between 1.00 and 1.40.

25 5. The toner according to claim 4, wherein the toner has

a ratio of a surface roughness to the volume-average particle diameter of between 0.2 and 6.0.

6. The toner according to claim 5, wherein the toner has a shape factor of between 100 and 140 and a ratio of the surface roughness to the shape factor of between 0.007 and 0.30.

7. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner is granulated in a liquid medium.

8. The toner according to claim 1, further comprising: a resin, wherein the resin is different from the binder resin and disposed on the surface of the toner particles.

9. The toner according to claim 1, wherein the toner particles comprise a release agent.

10. A method of producing a toner, comprising:

dissolving or dispersing a polyester prepolymer having a functional group including a nitrogen atom, a polyester resin, a colorant and a release agent in an organic solvent to prepare a toner constituent liquid; and

dispersing the toner constituent liquid in an aqueous medium including at least one of a crosslinking agent and an elongation agent to perform at least one of a crosslinking reaction and an elongation reaction to cross-link or elongate the polyester prepolymer.

11. The toner according to claim 7, wherein the liquid medium comprises a resin particulate material having a volume-average particle diameter of between 20 and 150 nm, and wherein the resin particulate material is disposed on a surface